



**STATE ADVISORY BOARD FOR JUVENILE SERVICES
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, on June 29, 2005, DJS entered into its first agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice regarding reforms of the conditions of confinement at the Charles H. Hickey School and the Cheltenham Youth Facility, with areas covered including protection from harm, suicide prevention, mental health services, special education, medical care, fire safety, and quality assurance;

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2007, DJS Secretary Donald DeVore voluntarily entered into a second agreement with the Department of Justice to include monitoring and reforms of the Baltimore City Juvenile Justice Center;

WHEREAS, working with the federal monitor, the Department of Juvenile Services implemented reforms at the Charles H. Hickey School and the Cheltenham Youth Facility, which resulted in the facilities reaching full compliance and exiting from federal oversight in June 2008;

WHEREAS, the Baltimore City Juvenile Justice Center (BCJJC) successfully exited federal oversight in August 2010 after enhancing the quality of conditions and treatment of the youth detained there, including partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America to develop programming and successful implementation of improved suicide prevention and behavior management policies; *and*

WHEREAS, the Justice Department reported that DJS has radically improved the care and treatment of youth in just three years, and the improvements in services, treatment, and safety in these three juvenile facilities have laid the groundwork for continued improvement and expansion of effective treatment and services by DJS in its facilities and in Maryland communities,

THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED by the State Advisory Board for Juvenile Services that the Board hereby recognizes and commends the employees of the Department of Juvenile Services and Secretary DeVore for improving the care of youth in State facilities and satisfying Federal Justice Department requirements, *and*

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board will continue to support and advise the Department in its ongoing efforts to meet the highest standards of professional practice, to provide effective services to youth, and to protect community safety.

ADOPTED by vote of the Board, October 19, 2010

Margaret Z. (Meg) Ferguson, Chair
Maryland State Advisory Board for Juvenile Services